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Chapter 2 • Galaxies in the SDSS survey

§2.1 • Distribution in real and redshift space



Phases of SDSS







SDSS Collaboration



Hubble Space Telescope

NGC 5754

SDSS

Current sky surveys



Images by Song Huang • Greco et al. 2017

Future sky surveys

- SDSS observed about 1 million galaxies
- Newest surveys have covered
 300 million galaxies
- Euclid Satellite (ESA)
 - 1 billion galaxies
 - To redshift ~2 (10 billion years ago!)
- Vera Rubin Observatory / LSST
 - Will observe 20 billion galaxies
 - 20 TB / night
- Nancy Grace Roman Telescope
 - First wide-area survey from space





§2.2 • Magnitudes, spectra, and colors

Apparent magnitude



SDSS imaging camera





Spectra



Filter and magnitude systems



Dust absorption





B, I, K

Dust extinction



Draine §22.1

Galactic dust maps



Planck (microwave, 3.5 - 100 mm)



Planck collaboration

K-corrections



§2.3 • Surface brightness, size, and total flux



Exponential profile





de Vaucouleurs profile





Sparke & Gallagher §6.1

Sizes



Cebrian & Trujillo 2014 • CFN §3.1.4

Central surface brightness vs. magnitude

Low surface brightness galaxies

Dragonfly Collaboration

Low surface brightness galaxies

Dragonfly Collaboration

§2.4 • Luminosity functions

Malmquist bias

Distance

Schechter function

FIG. 2.—Best fit of analytic expression to observed composite cluster galaxy luminosity distribution. Filled circles show the effect of including cD galaxies in composite.

§2.5 • Morphology

§2.5.1 • The "Hubble fork" classification system

Whirlpool Galaxy (M51 a/b)

Morphological classification

- Classification system by Wolf 1908
- Ordered from amorphous to clear shapes

Images from Hubble (1926)

"From a study of all available photographs with large reflectors, it is found that the characteristic features of non-galactic nebulae are rotational symmetry about dominating nuclei. About 2.5% are irregular, lacking both these features, and form a homogeneous class of which the Magellanic Clouds are the most conspicuous members. The regular nebulae fall into a progressive sequence ranging from globular masses of unresolved nebulosity through lenticular forms to the open spirals with arms swarming with stars. This purely observational sequence conforms very closely to Jeans' theory of the origin and evolution of spirals."

Edwin Hubble (1926)

Hubble Fork

- Classification scheme for galaxies according to shape, prominence of spiral arms, and bars
 - Ellipticals: No spiral arms, round to elliptical shape
 - Spirals: Have central bulge, halo, disk, and spiral arms
 - Barred Spirals: Spirals that have a "bar" running through their centers
 - Irregular: Lower mass galaxies, often satellites of more massive galaxies

Observed spiral (disk) galaxies

Hubble Space Telescope

Observed elliptical galaxies

Hubble Space Telescope

Observed irregular galaxies

Hubble Space Telescope

Hubble sequence across cosmic time

§2.5.2 • Correlations between morphology and other galaxy properties

Recap: Stellar lifetimes on the main sequence

- High-mass stars (> 8 M_{\odot}) Lifetime <100 million years
- Intermediate mass stars (2-8 M_{\odot}) Lifetime 100 million to 1 billion yrs
- Low-mass stars (<2 M_{\odot}) Lifetime of 1 to 1000 billion yrs

Recap: The main sequence turn-off

Spiral vs. elliptical, red vs. blue

Color

- Smaller stars are redder and live longer, bigger stars are bluer and live shorter
- Thus, as a stellar population ages, it gets more red ("red and dead")
- Blue galaxies are actively forming stars whereas red galaxies are not
- Shape
 - Spirals tend to be very disk-like, whereas ellipticals are spherical to ellipsoidal
- Correlations
 - Elliptical galaxies tend to be red (old stellar population), spirals tend to be blue (forming stars)
 - However, there are intermediate stages to all of these classifications: red spirals, blue-ish ellipticals/irregulars, and everything in between

§2.5.3 • Morphology and dynamics: a preview

The structure of the Milky Way Galaxy

- The disk is very thin: about 100,000 ly wide and 2,000 ly thick
- Almost all young stars are found in the disk, within 100 ly of the plane
- Stars within about 10,000 ly from the Galactic center are not confined to the disk and "bulge" outward
- Some (mostly older) stars orbit in the larger stellar halo, which includes many globular clusters

Central

Cygnus

bar

The structure of the Milky Way Galaxy

The structure of the Milky Way Galaxy

Rotation curves

Measuring the total mass of galaxies

Vera Rubin

Reading

- CFN
 - 2.1: §6.6
 - 2.2: §C.2-C.4
 - 2.3: §3.1.2-4
 - 2.4: §3.5
 - 2.5: §3.1

- MvdBW
 - 2.1: §2.7-2.7.1
 - 2.2: §2.1
 - 2.3: §2.4.2
 - 2.4: §15.2.1
 - 2.5: §2.3.1